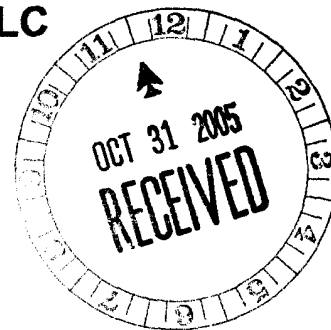


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October 26, 2005

Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 424X), The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company --Abandonment Exemption-- in Dawson and McCone Counties, MT

Dear Secretary Williams:

In the above-named docket, BNSF Railway Company ("BNSF") previously filed a Notice of Exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 43.41-mile line of railroad extending between milepost 7.00 near Glendive and milepost 50.41 in Circle, in Dawson and McCone Counties, MT. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 59330, 59339, 59315, and 59215. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on November 5, 2004 (69 FR 64631). The present consummation deadline is November 5, 2005.

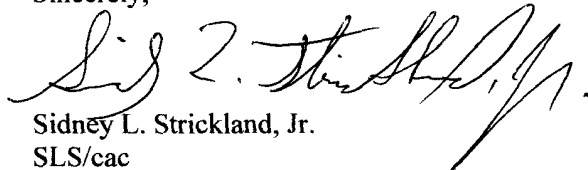
Due to a pending historical condition and negotiations with various local interests, salvage operations on this line have been delayed. The historical condition and negotiations are being finalized and salvage operations on the line are likely to commence shortly. Accordingly, BNSF requests an extension of the consummation deadline until June 1, 2006.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 295-4024.

Sincerely,

  
Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.  
SLS/cac

cc: James Gallegos  
Jerry Johnson  
Richard Batie  
Dalen Wintermute

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